



UNCLASSIFIED



## House Armed Services Committee

### DAILY SUMMARY – OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Current as of 12:00 p.m. EST April 7, 2003



Sources: Unclassified Department of Defense Sources and Press Reports; map from *The Washington Post*.

#### Significant Events Last 24 Hours

- U.S. forces moved into downtown Baghdad, seizing Saddam Hussein's main presidential palace. Army and Marine units have virtually surrounded the capitol.
- The body of Ali Hassan al-Majeed, known as "Chemical Ali" for his role in gassing Iraqi Kurds in the 1980s, was reported dead after a coalition strike against his villa in Basra. Al-Majeed, Saddam Hussein's first cousin, was the commander of Iraqi forces in the south.
- C-130 aircraft landed at Baghdad Intl. Airport bringing supplies and reinforcements, and demonstrating that U.S. forces control major facilities within Baghdad.

#### MAP KEY

- Battle Site
- Airstrike
- Ground attack
- Captured city
- Airfields
- Oil fields

#### Coalition Forces Update

- Elements of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division hold the Baghdad International Airport and are operating south and west of the city. Units have occupied the main presidential palace in downtown Baghdad.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Expeditionary Brigade are operating south and east of Baghdad, and are attacking northwest to cut off escape routes north of the city.
- The 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne continues to secure supply lines in the vicinity of Karbala. A brigade of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division is also protecting supply routes near Najaf.
- The 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade in northern Iraq staged an artillery raid on Iraqi positions east of Mosul.
- British forces have moved into the heart of Basra, taking control of most of the city.
- The U.S. began airlifting Free Iraqi Forces, led by exile leader Ahmed Chalbai, into Nasiriyah.

#### Iraqi Forces Update

- Republican Guard forces charged with defending Baghdad have largely ceased to exist as coherent units. Company sized units comprised of 20-40 vehicles still offer resistance in and around the capitol and the airport.
- Reports indicate that a mix of Republican Guard, Special Republican Guard, the paramilitary Fedayeen Saddam and non-Iraqi Arabs are offering scattered resistance inside Baghdad.
- Elements of the regular Iraqi Army have taken up defensive positions around the cities of Mosul and Kirkuk in the north.